

Sanitized - Approved

20 September 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR: Acting DCI

VIA: Executive Director

1. Mr. Ted Lewis, of the NEW YORK DAILY NEWS, telephoned this afternoon to ask whether Mr. Bissell was still with CIA. I said he left some months ago and was now with "a research organization" in Washington.

2. Mr. Lewis said he was asking because he was "intrigued" with Secretary Rusk's testimony on Cuba given before the two Senate committees last Monday and released today. To a question by Senator Russell about the "quality" of intelligence about Cuba, Secretary Rusk is quoted as saying: "...very firm indeed," on Soviet missile sites; but as to "political" information, on political "attitudes," etc. our information is inadequate.

3. Mr. Lewis commented that he thought that that deficiency was a factor in U.S. "optimism" before the April 1961 invasion attempt, in Mr. Bissell's time, and that that factor had been connected.

4. I had no comment, of course, on Mr. Lewis' musings, except to confirm Mr. Bissell's departure some months ago.

5. Also herewith is UPI story (UPI - 110, September 20), paraphrasing Secretary Rusk's testimony, saying that "he could use more political intelligence on the attitudes of the Cuban people under the Castro regime."

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Acting Assistant to the Director

cc Legislative Counsel